

Friday, 26 February 2021

Comment on the EIS-FELA Ballot Result

Commenting on the result of the EIS-FELA ballot, a spokesperson for Colleges Scotland, said:

“The action being taken by EIS-FELA is extremely disappointing after what has already been a very difficult and challenging year for staff and students across Scotland. The EIS-FELA is taking its members down the route of unnecessary industrial action at a critical time when there is a need for stability and certainty within the sector as we deal with the impact of the pandemic.

“The EIS-FELA has accepted that there is no national plan to replace lecturers with tutor/assessor/instructor roles nor any other support staff roles yet have still pushed forward with the ballot and the threat of industrial action.

“Tutor/assessor/instructor roles are not new to the college sector; they have been in place within colleges across Scotland for a considerable number of years to deliver a diverse curriculum which best suits the needs of the learner and the subject matter being taught.

“The college sector is not unique in using a variety of different roles to deliver their services. Different sectors and professionals also have a range of support staff roles which are required such as teachers and classroom assistants, solicitors and para-legals, nurses and nursing assistants.

“All roles, whether they be lecturing or support staff, are equally valuable and necessary to deliver the best learner experience and for the effective running of colleges. Each role is distinct and plays its own part in the successful operation of colleges.

“We are continuing talks with the EIS-FELA, and have agreed to meet again week commencing 1st March, in the hope that we can reach a resolution and avoid any further unnecessary disruption for students.”

ENDS

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